

A nymphuline moth (Crambidae) accidentally introduced from Sri Lanka to Japan

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Abstract A nymphuline moth, *Agassiziella angulipennis*, caught at the Japanese Plant Quarantine was recorded with the host plant.

Key words *Agassiziella angulipennis*, Nymphulinae, Plant Quarantine, Sri Lanka, *Cryptocoryne wendtii*.

Recently some nymphuline larvae have been caught occasionally at Japanese Plant Quarantine with the increasing importation of ornamental water plants. Hitherto, three nymphuline species have been noted as accidentally introduced and stopped to enter into Japan from Southeast Asia: *Parapoynx diminutalis*, *P. stagnalis* and *P. flucutuosalis* (e. g. Matsuura, 1995; Yoshiyasu, unpublished). These species are widely known from Southeast Asia and the southern part of the East Palaearctic region, including Japan. They feed on various submerged water plants, which are imported to Japan for glasshouse nursery or personal house aquaria, and similar purposes. The species to be reported here was caught at the Kansai International Airport in larval stage with the host plants, and was reared to the adult in a separate laboratory at the airport branch of Kobe Plant Protection Station. I examined the adults from the larvae, and determined them as *Agassiziella angulipennis*, a species taken for the first time at Japanese Quarantine. In this report I will offer brief diagnosis of this species for identification, with collecting data.

Agassiziella angulipennis (Hampson) (Fig. 1)

Oligostigma angulipennis Hampson, 1893: 139; Agassiz, 1978: 122.

Agassizia angulipennis: Yoshiyasu, 1987: 142.

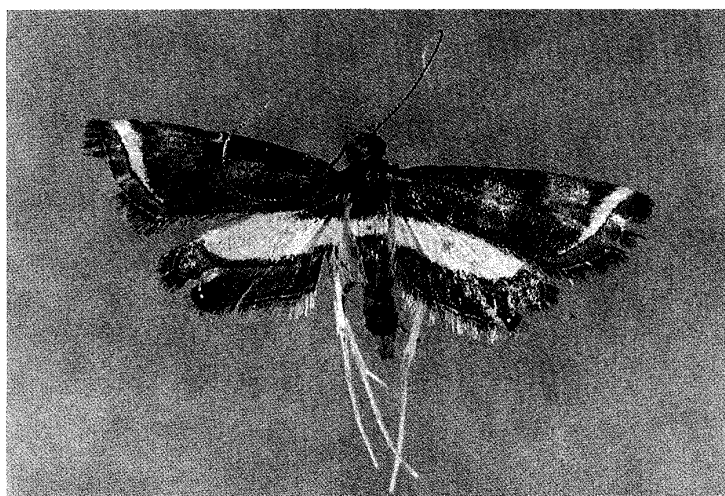


Fig. 1. *Agassiziella angulipennis* (Hampson), ♂, accidentally introduced into Japan.

Agassiziella angulipennis : Yoshiyasu, 1989 : 189.

Material examined. 2 ♂, em. 19 & 30. xii. 1996 (caught as larvae on 16. xi. 1996 at Kansai International Airport).

The species is characterized by having the forewing broadly fuscous to light brown from base to submarginal white band, with a distinct dark brown discal spot, and the hindwing with a sinuous termen (two small silvery spots in cell M_1 and M_2 along termen) behind apex and with a median whitish area in basal 1/2, together with the following characteristics : Head with antenna long and filiform, dorsally with dark brown scales on each flagellar segment ; labial palpus long, upcurved to acuminate apex, 1st segment whitish and apical 2 segments fuscous ; maxillary palpus long, extending along labial palpus, fuscous ; thorax above fuscous, beneath whitish ; legs long and whitish but fuscous in forecoxa and fore- and midtibiae, hindcoxa with a fan-shaped tuft of whitish scales posteriorly ; abdomen above light brown except for paler 2nd and 8th segments, beneath whitish.

Host plant. *Cryptocoryne wendtii* (Araceae).

Size of male forewing. 6.4 mm.

Distribution. India, Sri Lanka, Thailand.

Remarks. This species has also been recorded from a nursery in England (Agassiz, 1978), feeding on *Cryptocoryne* spp., believed to have been introduced from Sri Lanka, and is reported to occur continuously in the nursery. If the host plant is freely available and the temperature is sufficient for development, the species is able to survive successfully even in the temperate region. The British (Sri Lankan) and Thai forms are different from the Indian form (type) in lacking the submarginal white band in the hindwing.

References

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摘 要

植物検疫で輸入阻止されたミズメイガの1種 (吉安 裕)

植物検疫 (神戸植物防疫所) で輸入阻止されたスリランカ産水草 *Cryptocoryne wendtii* (サトイモ科) 寄生のミズメイガ, *Agassiziella angulipennis* (Hampson) を記録した。これまでの検疫では, *Parapoinx* イネミズメイガ属の種は記録されていたが, 本属の種は筆者の知る限り初めて見つかった。本種幼虫は沈水葉植物を摂食し, 分岐した気管鰓をもつなど, イネミズメイガ属の種と類似するが, 成虫は前翅基部から亜外縁の白色帯まで広く暗茶褐色で, 中室内に黒褐色の斑点があり, 後翅翅縁が翅頂下で大きく丸くえぐれ, 中央部に広い白色帯があることなどでイネミズメイガ属の種とは異なる。

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